

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A board comprising:
an elongated body presenting a pair of similarly configured sides,
each of said sides including a normally-upper lip and a normally-lower lip,
each of said sides including a generally rounded longitudinal groove defined between the
normally-upper lip and the normally-lower lip,
said groove including an inner-most surface representing the deepest portion of the groove,
said normally-upper lip extending further from the inner-most surface than the
normally-lower lip and said normally-upper lip and said normally-lower lip being
approximately equal in height, and
said normally upper-lip presenting a rounded distal portion.
2. (Original) The board according to claim 1, said normally-upper lip extending at least
about 10 percent further from the inner-most surface than the normally-lower lip.
3. (Original) The board according to claim 1, said normally-upper lip extending at least
about 20 percent further from the inner-most surface than the normally-lower lip.
4. (Original) The board according to claim 1, said similarly configured sides being located
on generally opposite sides of the body.
5. (Canceled)

6. (Original) The board according to claim 1, said body being formed of a composite of a cellulosic fiber and plastic.

7. (Original) The board according to claim 1, said normally-upper and normally-lower lips presenting opposing inwardly facing surfaces cooperatively defining at least a portion of the groove.

8. (Original) The board according to claim 7, said inwardly facing surfaces being space from one another by a distance in the range of from about 0.05 to about 0.5 inches.

9. (Original) The board according to claim 8, said body having a thickness in the range of from about 0.5 to about 2 inches.

10. (Original) The board according to claim 1, said body being formed by extrusion.

11. (Currently Amended) A deck system comprising:

a plurality of laterally spaced joists; and

a plurality of substantially parallel boards extending across and supported by the joists, each of said boards including a pair of generally opposite similarly configured sides, each of said sides including an upper lip, a lower lip, and a generally rounded groove defined between the upper and lower lips,

said lower lip being disposed closer to the joists than the upper lip,

said upper lip protruding further than the lower lip and presenting a rounded distal portion, and

said groove ~~lacking a recess operable to retain water~~ having a height of at least about ten percent of the height of the board.

12. (Original) The deck system according to claim 11, said groove including an inner-most surface representing the deepest portion of the groove, said upper lip extending at least about 10 percent further from the inner-most surface than the lower lip.

13. (Original) The deck system according to claim 12, said upper lip extending at least about 20 percent further from the inner-most surface than the lower lip.

14. (Original) The deck system according to claim 11, each of said boards being spaced from one another by a distance in the range of from about 0.1 to about 0.75 inches.

15. (Original) The deck system according to claim 11, said boards being formed of a composite cellulosic fiber and plastic material.

16. (Original) The deck system according to claim 11, each of said boards being formed via extrusion.

17. (Previously Presented) The deck system according to claim 11, wherein said groove and lower lip lack protrusions extending away from the joists.

18. (Previously Presented) The deck system according to claim 11, said groove including an inner-most surface representing the deepest portion of the groove and a bottom surface extending from the inner-most surface to the lower lip, said inner-most surface, bottom surface, and lower lip presenting a continuously downward slope.

19. (Previously Presented) The deck system according to claim 11, wherein said upper lip and lower lip are approximately equal in height.

Appl. No. 10/634,497

Reply to Office Action of October 6, 2006

20. (Previously Presented) The board according to claim 1, wherein said groove lacks a recess operable to retain water.